(c) whether this high duty imposition has brought down the demand for pressure cookers and hiked the consumption of kerosene oil;

(d) if so, whether Government propose to review the decision in this regard; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) to (c) As part of the overall policy of broadening the tax base and to give protection to the tiny and small units, excise duty on pressure cookers was imposed in 1994 budget at the rate of 10 percent. The effective increase in excise duty will be considerably less as the manufacturers will be able to take full credit of excise duty paid on their inputs. Besides, small scale units making pressure cookers will not have to pay any excise duty on their clearances upto Rs. 30 lakhs, and the incidence of duty will be borne only by bigger units. There is no information available that the imposition of excise duty has discouraged the use of pressure cookers resulting in higher consumption of kerosene oil.

(d) and (e) Do not arise in view of (a), (b) and (c) above.

Payment of DA to Central Government employees

1149. SHRI BHAGABAN MAJHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state

(a) the quantum of DA that has become due for payment to the Central Government employees at present; and

(b) the steps taken to release the same?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) and (b) In accordance with the formula accepted by the Govt. on the basis of the recommendations of the 4th Central Pay Commission, dearness allowance to Central Govt. employees is revised twice a year from 1st January and 1st July which normally becomes payable with the salary for the months of March ad September respectively Each such instalment is calculated on the basis of the percentage increase in 12 monthly average of All India Consumer Price Index for Industrial Workers (General) (1960—100) over the base index of 608, to which the existing scales of pay effective from 1-1-1986 are related. The additional instalment of DA due from 1st January becomes normally payable with the salary for the month of March, paid in April.

World Bank Amount

1150. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total amount sanctioned by the World Bank for several schemes in India during the last three years;

(b) what is the amount undisbursed for those schemes during the same period;

(c) whether it is a fact that Government are paying some charges on those unavailed amounts; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI M. V. CHANDRASHEKARA MURTHY): (a) The total amount authorised by the World Bank to India was Rs. 6946 Crores Rs. 5122 Crores and Rs. 4465 Crores during 1991-92, 1992-93 and 1993-94 respectively.

(b) The disbursement of these amounts depend on the project-cycle implementation schedule, which is normally 5 to 7 years. The cummulative undisbursed amount against the loan sanctioned during the last